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*Henry Esmond* we detect a change ; the author begins to criticise his previous philosophy. In the *Newcomes* fatalism weakens and the power of fate seems less than that of man. In *Philip* we have at last a note of happiness, while "in *Denis Duval* the sense of fate is hardly felt and it is not even suggested that man is not the real victor over circumstance."

Such is—too briefly stated—the line of Professor Stephenson's argument. The book as a whole is inspired by so fine a sense of justice and embodies so delicate a feeling for art in literature that it is not only a brilliant piece of criticism but a delightful piece of reading.

G. T.

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HARPER'S BOOK FOR YOUNG NATURALISTS. By Alpheus Hyatt Verrill. New York: Harper & Brothers.

This is a "guide to collecting and preparing specimens, with descriptions of the life, habits, and haunts of birds, insects, plants, etc. . . . written for boys who are interested in out-of-doors life and out-of-doors work, and who are anxious to learn all they can of nature's wonders, animate and inanimate, and who collect or want to collect something of value and interest in an intelligent way. . . . The author believes that this book will prove of no little value as an aid in getting together nature-study collections for school use and in fostering and encouraging intelligent and systematic work of this sort among the pupils." The illustrations are all original and "many of the photographs are unique and show the subjects in their natural haunts and attitudes." Written by a naturalist of established reputation, the book is thoroughly reliable as to facts and methods, and its material is presented in untechnical language, so as to make the volume a valuable hand-book for the library of home or school.

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W. A. G.'S TALE. By Margaret Turnbull. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.

"My name is William Ainsworth Gordon, and my initials are W. A. G. That's why Aunty May and I call this book 'W. A. G.'s Tale.' If it was about a dog it would be 'Tail Wags.' So it's true and a joke too." In such fashion does the little